

CLAIMS

No amendments to the claims are being made. However, the claims are set forth below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Previously Presented) A disposable garment for the adsorption and containment of urine or other body exudates, the disposable garment comprising:

- a. a liquid impervious backing sheet;
- b. a liquid pervious bodyside liner comprising a nonwoven fabric laminate that comprises a thin layer of fine fibers having an average diameter of up to about 8 microns; and
- c. an absorbent material disposed between the liquid pervious bodyside liner and the liquid impervious backing sheet, the absorbent material comprising absorbent particles;

wherein the thin layer of fine fibers has a basis weight of less than 2.5 grams per square meter, and has an average pore size less than the average diameter of the absorbent particles.

2. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 1 wherein the layer of fine fibers consist essentially of meltblown fibers.

3. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 2 wherein the nonwoven fabric laminate comprises at least one spunbond layer and the thin layer of fine fibers consists essentially of a layer of meltblown fibers.

4. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 3 wherein the thin layer of fine fibers consists essentially of a layer of meltblown fibers and the nonwoven fabric

laminate consists essentially of the thin layer of fine fibers disposed between two spunbond layers.

5. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 1 wherein the thin layer of fine fibers has a basis weight of less than 2.0 grams per square meter.

6. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 1 wherein the thin layer of fine fibers has a basis weight of less than 1.5 grams per square meter.

7. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 1 wherein the nonwoven fabric laminate is treated with a surfactant.

8. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 3 wherein the absorbent material comprises particles selected from the groups consisting of superabsorbent particles, synthetic polymer particles, carbon particles and combinations thereof.

9. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 1 wherein the thin layer of fine fibers consists of a layer of fibers that has a basis weight of less than about 1 gram per square meter.

10. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 1, wherein the thin layer of fine fibers consists of a layer of fibers that has a basis weight of less than about 0.8 gram per square meter.

11. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 1, wherein the thin layer of fine fibers consists of a layer of fibers that has a basis weight of less than about 0.5 gram per square meter.

12. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 1, wherein the thin layer of fine fibers consists of a layer of fibers that has a basis weight of less than about 0.3 gram per square meter.

13. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 1 further comprising particles of a superabsorbent material dispersed in the absorbent material.

14. (Original) The disposable garment of claim 1 wherein the nonwoven fabric laminate further comprises a layer of bonded carded fibers.

15. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 3 wherein the at least one spunbond layer comprise fibers made from a polymer selected from the group consisting of lactic acid, vinyl alcohol, and mixtures thereof.

16. (Previously Presented) A disposable garment for the adsorption and containment of urine or other body exudates, the disposable garment comprising:

- a. a liquid impervious backing sheet,
- b. a liquid pervious bodyside liner comprising a nonwoven fabric laminate that comprises a layer of spunbonded fibers and a layer of meltblown fibers and wherein the layer of meltblown fibers defines pores therein having specified sizes and has a basis weight of less than about 1.5 grams per square meter; and
- c. an absorbent material comprising absorbent particles disposed between the liquid pervious bodyside liner and the liquid impervious backing sheet; and
wherein the average pore size of the layer of meltblown fibers is less than the average diameter of the absorbent particles.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 16 wherein the layer of meltblown fibers has a basis weight of less than about 1 gram per square meter.

19. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 16 wherein the layer of meltblown fibers has a basis weight of less than about 0.8 gram per square meter.

20. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 16 wherein the layer of meltblown fibers has a basis weight of less than about 0.5 gram per square meter.

21. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 16 wherein the layer of meltblown fibers has a basis weight of less than about 0.3 gram per square meter.

22. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 16 wherein the nonwoven fabric laminate further comprises a second layer of spunbonded fibers.

23. (Previously Presented) The disposable garment of claim 16 wherein the nonwoven fabric laminate is slit or necked or slit and necked.

24. (Previously Presented) A bodyside liner consisting essentially of a nonwoven fabric laminate that consists essentially of:

- a. a first layer of spunbonded fibers,
- b. a second layer of spunbonded fibers,
- c. a layer of meltblown fibers disposed between the first layer of spunbonded fibers and the second layer of spunbonded fibers, wherein the layer of meltblown fibers has a basis weight of ranges from 0.06 grams per square meter to about 1 gram per square meter and the pore sizes of the layer of meltblown fibers are less than about 25 microns; and

wherein the bodyside liner has a SAM retention level of greater than 95 percent using the SAM Shake Test.

25. (Original) The bodyside liner of claim 24 wherein the basis weight of the layer of meltblown fibers is less than about 0.8 grams per square meter.

26. (Previously Presented) The bodyside liner of claim 24 wherein the basis weight of the layer of meltblown fibers is less than about 0.5 grams per square meter.

27. (Previously Presented) The bodyside liner of claim 24 wherein the basis weight of the layer of meltblown fibers is less than about 0.3 grams per square meter.

28. (Previously Presented) The bodyside liner of claim 24 wherein the layer of meltblown fibers consists of fibers having an average diameter of from about 1 micron to about 10 microns.

29. (Previously Presented) The bodyside liner of claim 24 wherein the meltblown fibers have an average diameter in the range of up to about 8 microns and the spunbonded fibers have an average diameter in the range of from about 8 microns to about 30 microns.

30. (Previously Presented) The bodyside liner of claim 24 wherein the first spunbonded layer, the meltblown layer and the second spunbonded layer are intermittently bonded to form the nonwoven fabric laminate.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The bodyside liner of claim 24 having a SAM retention level of greater than 98 percent using the SAM Shake Test.